Message Text

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INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

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USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

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UNCLAS ATHENS 8132

E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: PFOR, CY, US

SUBJECT: REACTION TO PRESIDENT FORD'S REPORT TO CONGRESS ON CYPRUS

REF: STATE 196825

1. PRESIDENT FORD'S REPORT TO THE CONGRESS ON CYPRUS (REFTEL)
RECEIVED WIDESPREAD BUT SECONDARY COVERAGE IN THE GREEK MEDIA OVER
THIS PAST WEEKEND. ON SATURDAY, AUGUST 7, THE MEDIA, IN ARTICLES
XASED PRIMARILY ON SUMMARY REPORTS FILED FROM WASHINGTON, ACCORDED
ESSENTIALLY FACTUAL TREATMENT TO THE STORY AND QUOTED EXCERPTS FROM
THE TEXT OF THE PRESIDENTIAL REPORT. INTRODUCTORY TITLES SURROUNDING
THE STORIES INDICATED THE FEELING THAT PROGRESS HAD NOT BEEN ACHIEVED

SHOWED THE PRESIDENT'S DISAPPOINTMENT AT THE STALEMATE AND NOTED HIS CALL FOR BOTH SIDES TO BE MORE FORTHCOMING

2. ON SUNDAY, AUGUST 8, THREE EDITORIALS APPEARED WHICH WERE BASICALL ...

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CRITICAL. IN ITS FRONT LAGE EDITORIAL, ULTRA CONSERVATIVE ETHNIKOS

KIRYX EXPRESSED DOUBT THAT PRESIDENT FORD WAS SINCERE IN WANTING A JUST SETTLEMENT AND NOTED THAT THE PRESIDENT'S REPORT HAD BEEN COMPILED AT THE SAME TIME THAT MAINLAND TURKS WERE BEING SENT TO INCREASE THE TURKISH POPULATION OF NORTHERN CYPRUS. MENTION WAS MADE THAT PRESIDENT FORD, WHILE STRESSING THE IMPORTANCE OF THE INTERCOMMU NAL.

TALKS, FAILED TO REFER TO THE MANY UN DECISIONS ON CYPRUS WHICH HAVE NOT BEEN ADHERED TO BY TUREEY. FINALLY, THE EDITORIAL TIED IN RECENT COMMENTS BY FORMER UNDER SECRETARY SISCO THAT A CARTER ADMINISTRATION WOULD BRING NO SIGNIFICANT SHIFTS IN AMERICAN FOREIGN POLICY, AND CONCLUDED THAT, WITH EVERY SETBACK ENCOUNTERED BY PRESENT AMERICAN FOREIGN POLICY, THERE IS ONLY ONE LOSER - THE WESTERN WORLD.

3. PRO-GOVERNMENT, CONSERVATIVE ACROPOLIS, HEADING ITS COMMENTS WITH THE TITLE "HYPOCRISY ABOUT CYPRUS", SAID THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE WAS AN ATTEMPT AT SUBTERFUGE IN TRYING TO KEEP THE TRUTH FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE AS TO WHICH SIDE WAS TRULY FILIBUSTERING ON THE CYPRUS ISSUE. THE EDITORIAL ATTACKED WHAT IT LABELLED WAS THE "KISSINGER LINE" OF HAVING CONGRESS PASS THE US-TURKISH DEFENSE COOPERATION AGREEMENT IN ORDER TO GET US BASES IN TURKEY REOPENED AND OF HVAING THE US "BOOST TURKEY TO AN ASCENDANT MILITARY POSITION IN THE MIDDLE EAST." IT STATED THAT IT REMAINED TO BE SEEN IF THE U.S. CONGRESS WILL GIVE IN TO THE "IMMEDIATE EXPEDIENCY OF AMERICAN POLICY FOR WHOSE INTERESTS THE CYPRIOT PEOPLE ARE RAPED, AND JUSTICE AND MORAL ORDER SUFFER." COMMUNIST PARTY OF THE INTERIOR AVGH I,

LIKEWISE, SPOKE OF THE "HYPOCRISY" OF THE PRESIDENT'S REPORT.
THE EDITORIAL COMMENTED THAT THE SETTLEMENT THE U.S. WANTS IN CYPRUS WILL BE ADVANCED ONLY WHEN THE TURKS HAVE ONE HUNDRED PERCENT OF CYPRUS, AS SHOWN BY THE WARM RECEPTION IN THE US ACCORDED ECEVIT, WHO WAS EVEN MORE "HAWKISH" THAN DEMIREL.
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